

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT L 00102 302031Z  
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05  
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-11 FMC-01 TRSE-00  
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 /135 W  
-----092531 302034Z /45

R 301116Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7250  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0102

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLOS MP  
SUBJECT: LOS - REACTIONS TO AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S SEAPOWER  
SYMPOSIUM SPEECH

REF: STATE 12946

1. DCM DELIVERED COPY OF AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S SPEECH TO SOLICITOR GENERAL VENCHARD AND MINISTRY OF JUSTICE COUNSEL GAYAN, GOM EXPERTS ON LOS MATTERS. AFTER REVIEWING THE TEXT, THEY EXPRESSED THEIR VIEW THAT US POSITION ON MINING OF THE DEEP SEABED STILL APPEARED TO FAVOR PROTECTING PRIVATE US MINING INTERESTS WHICH HAD THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY SO THAT THEY COULD PROCEED WITH EXPLOITATION NOW. DCM POINTED OUT THAT US FAVORED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DUAL SYSTEM, ONE PERMITTING EXPLOITATION BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISES AS WELL AS EXPLOITATION BY AN INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY. THE US, DCM POINTED OUT, IS EVEN WILLING TO HELP FINANCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL ENTITY.

2. VENCHARD EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT BECAUSE HARD LINE  
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IDEOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS HAD ENTERED THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS, PARTICULARLY ON THE ISSUE OF SEABED MINING, IT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT. GAYAN SAID THAT HE HAD ATTEMPTED, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU GROUP, TO MODERATE THE AFRICAN GROUP'S POSITION IN THE JUNE 1977 LOS MEETING AND HAD INCURRED THE "UNDYING WRATH" OF THE LIBYAN AND ALGERIAN DELEGATES.

THE GOM, HE SAID, BELIEVED A TREATY IS ESSENTIAL AND  
HAD DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TOWARD THAT END ALREADY.  
BUT THE POSITIVE RESULTS HAD NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING.

3. MAURITIUS, VENCHARD SAID, HAD NOT PLANNED TO SEND A  
DELEGATION OF LOS TECHNICIANS TO BHE FEBRUARY 6 INTER-  
SESSIONAL MEETING BECAUSE HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE A WASTE  
FO TIME GIVEN THE WIDE DIVERGENCY BETWEEN THE POSITIONS  
OF THE DEVELOPED AND UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS. AFTER  
DISCUSSING THE QUESTION FURTHER WITH DCM, HE AGREED TO  
EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF HAVING ONE OF HIS LOS LEGAL  
EXPERTS, RAJSOOMER LALLAH, ATTEND THE NEW YORK MEETING.  
APPARENTLY LALLAH WILL BE IN WASHINGTON IN EARLY FEBRUARY  
ON OTHER BUSINESS AND COULD BE DESPATCHED TO NEW YORK  
ON FEBRUARY 6 IF NECESSARY. VENCHARD STILL REMAINED  
SKEPTICAL OF THE VALUE OF THE INTERSESSIONAL MEETING, AND  
WONDERED ALOUD WHETHER IT COULD PRODUCE ANYTHING MORE THAN  
AN "EXCHANGE OF RHETORIC."  
KEELEY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**TAGS:** PLOS, MP  
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